

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05521 01 OF 02 141219Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W  
-----141225Z 069506 /14

P R 140830Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8397  
CINCPAC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 5521/1

USIAC

FOR: SECSTATE EA/PHL ONLY  
USIA/IEA  
CINCPAC - USIA ADVISOR

E.O. 11652:N/A  
SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - APRIL 7 - 14

### 1. PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION

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A. SUBIC SI\* CLARK NO\* -- THE U.S. SENATE REPORT  
QUESTIONING THE NEED FOR CLARK, BUT REAFFIRMING SUBIC'S  
ROLE, GOT PROMINENT PLAY IN ALL PAPERS. ONE ITEM  
REFLECTING THE BASIC ECONOMICS OF THE ISSUE WAS A CARTOON  
IN THE TIMES JOURNAL SHOWING TWO BAR GIRLS IN OLONGAPO

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(SUBIC). READING THE HEADLINES, ONE COMMENTS, "AND YOU  
WANTED TO GO TO ANGELES\* (CLARK)".

TEODORO VALENCIA, DAILY EXPRESS, ALSO COMMENTED ON  
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THE REPORT IN HIS USUAL ACERBIC VEIN:

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"THE TROUBLE WITH THE UNITED STATES IS THAT THEY  
WANT TO SETTLE THE BASES QUESTION PURELY ON WHAT THEY  
WANT, IN CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE SIMPLE RULE OF BAR-  
GAINING .... ALL THIS TALK ABOUT WHAT THE USA MAY DO  
OR MAY NOT DO WITH THOSE BASES AND THEIR GRATUITOUS  
COMMENTS ON THE RENT WE WANT FOR THOSE BASES IN PUBLIC  
NOTICE TO THE WORLD THAT PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE GIVEN

IN 1946 WAS NEVER MEANT TO MAKE THE PHILIPPINES FREE...."  
ACKNOWLEDGING THAT PRES. MARCOS IS WILLING TO LET THE  
BASES STAY, VALENCIA NONETHLESS REINTERATED HIS CALL TO  
HAVE THEM REMOVED.

WRITING IN THE BULLETIN TODAY, COLUMNIST APOLONIO

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BATALLIA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THINGS ARE CALM IN THE AREA  
NOW AND THE NEED FOR THE BASES IS NOT APPARENT, BUT  
CAUTIONED, "ULTIMATELY, THE CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT SUPER-  
POWER COMPETITION OUGHT TO BE THE FOREMOST CRITERIA."

B. U.S. INVESTMENTS STILL KING -- ALL PAPERS

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ACCORDED POSITIVE COVERAGE TO A PHILIPPINE BOARD OF  
INVESTMENTS REPORT THAT THE U.S. IS STILL THE TOP  
INVESTOR IN THE PHILIPPINES, CAUSING VALENCIA TO SOUR-  
GRAPE THAT AMERICANS INVEST BECAUSE OF THE LURE OF  
PROFITS, DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF THE WESTERN PRESS AND  
THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO DISCOURAGE THEM.

C. SAFIRE VS. ROMULO -- THE BULLETIN TODAY

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REPRINTED THE FULL APRIL 7 WILLIAM SAFIRE NYT COLUMN  
CRITICIZING FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO'S REPUDIATION  
OF THE WESTERN PRESS. BOXED TOGETHER WITH THE COLUMN  
WAS ROMULO'S REPLY POINTING OUT THAT THE NYT HAD FAILED  
TO REPORT ON ROMULO'S SPEECH ON WHICH THE COLUMN WAS  
BASED, "A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THE PRESENT UNBALANED  
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ONE-WAY FLOW OF INFORMATION IN THE WESTERN MASS  
MEDIA." VALENCIA SUPPORTED ROMULO'S POSITION, IMPLYING  
THAT SAFIRE HAD MADE UP HIS "FACTS" ABOUT 500  
NON-VIOLENT OPPOSITION MEMBERS BEING DETAINED IN THE  
PHILIPPINES.

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W

-----141235Z 069648 /12

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 MANILA 5521/2

D. THE ASEAN, U.S., JAPAN AXIS -- SUNDAY EXPRESS,

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COLUMNIST NESTOR MATA DEVOTED A COLUMN TO THE EMERGING

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TRI-POLAR ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ASEAN, JAPAN  
AND THE U.S. STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF JAPAN IN THE  
EQUATION, MATA SAID:

"....THE ATTRACTION OF OPENING THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
MARKET IS DEFINITELY NOT LOST ON JAPAN. UNFORTUNATELY,  
AT THE MOMENT THERE ARE LATENT FEARS IN THE CAPITALS OF  
THE REGION, ESPECIALLY THE NON-COMMUNIST ONES, OF  
JAPANESE ECONOMIC DOMINATION...."

MATA, HOWEVER, SEEMED ENTHUSED OVER JAPAN'S GROW-  
ING ROLE, WHICH, HE SAID, HELPS TO ENSURE A POLITICALLY  
STABLE AND INDEPENDENT SOUTHEAST ASIA, WHILE PROVIDING  
A PROFITABLE MARKET FOR JAPAN, "A VICIOUS BUT CERTAINLY  
ATTRACTIVE CYCLE." (NOTE: MATA IS A SOMETIME  
ASSISTANT TO AMB. TO JAPAN ROBERTO BENEDICTO, WHO  
HAS SUBSTANTIAL TRADING INTERESTS IN JAPAN.)

E. BARONGS FOR SALE -- THE NOMINATION OF

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AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN AS AMBASSADOR TO IRAN ALSO  
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RECEIVED PROMINENT NEWS PLAY, AS WELL AS A CARTOON AND  
ONE SNIDE COMMENT. A TIMES JOURNAL CARTON SHOWS

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AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN TACKLING UP A SIGN: "USED BARONGS FOR  
SALE." THE COMMENT CAME FROM TIMES JOURNAL SATIRIST

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JOSE L. GUEVARA: "BILL WILL NOT BE SABOTAGING THE  
(BASES) TALKS FOR LONG. HE HAS BEEN NAMED AMBASSADOR  
TO IRAN, SCENE OF MAJOR CIA OPERATIONS, JIMMY CARTER  
KNOWS HOW TO USE TALENT." GUEVARA'S CLOSING REMARK  
WAS DIRECTED AT FELLOW COLUMNIST ERNIE GRANADA, WHO HAS  
BEEN CLAIMING THAT SULLIVAN IS THE CIA CHIEF OF FOR SEA  
AND THAT CARTER WAS PLANNING TO FIRE HIM. GRANADA HAS

NOT YET COMMENTED ABOUT THE AMBASSADOR'S REASSIGNMENT.

## II. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

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DUE TO DR. LINCOLN BLOOMFIELD'S SUDDEN INDISPOSITION AND DECISION TO BY-PASS MANILA, NO SPEAKER-CENTERED PROGRAMS WERE HELD THIS WEEK WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AN OFF-THE-RECORD TALK AND Q-AND-A SESSION FEATURING AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN AT THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CLUB.

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
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